

The New Oxford Dictionary of English

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agreement, etc.) by overwhelming vocal app. □ and without ballot. □ Canadian [of election] by virtue of being the sole candidate.

- **ORIGIN** mid 16th cent.: from Latin *acclamatio(n)*, from *aclamare* 'shout at', later 'shout in approval' (see **ACCLAIM**).

acclimate /ə'klaimɪt, ə'klɪmɪt/ ▶ **verb** [no obj.] chiefly N. Amer. acclimatize: we had to give the soldiers time to acclimate.

■ Biology respond physiologically or behaviourally to a change in a single environmental factor: trees may acclimate to high CO₂ levels by reducing the number of stomata. Compare with **ACCLIMATIZE**. ■ [with obj.] Botany & Horticulture harden off (a plant).

- **DERIVATIVES** **acclimation** noun.

- **ORIGIN** late 18th cent.: from French *acclimater*, from *a-* (from Latin ad 'to, at') + *climat* 'climate'.

acclimatize (also -ise) ▶ **verb** [no obj.] become accustomed to a new climate or to new conditions: it's unknown whether people will acclimatize to increasingly warm weather | they like to acclimatize themselves properly before doing anything.

■ Biology respond physiologically or behaviourally to changes in a complex of environmental factors. Compare with **ACCLIMATE**. ■ [with obj.] Botany & Horticulture harden off (a plant).

- **DERIVATIVES** **acclimatization** noun.

- **ORIGIN** mid 19th cent.: from French *acclimater* 'acclimatize' + -IZE.

acclivity /ə'klevɪti/ ▶ **noun** (pl. -ies) an upward slope.

- **DERIVATIVES** **acclivitous** adjective.

- **ORIGIN** early 17th cent.: from Latin *acclivitas*, from *acclivis*, from ad- 'towards' + *clivus* 'a slope'.

accolade /ə'kɒleɪd, ə'kɔ:ləd/ ▶ **noun** 1 an award or privilege granted as a special honour or as an acknowledgement of merit: the ultimate official accolade of visit by the Queen.

■ an expression of praise or admiration.

2 a touch on a person's shoulders with a sword at the bestowing of a knighthood.

- **ORIGIN** early 17th cent.: from French, from Provençal *acolada*, literally 'embrace around the neck (when bestowing knighthood)', from Latin ad- 'at, to' + *collum* 'neck'.

accommodate ▶ **verb** [with obj.] 1 (of physical space, especially a building) provide lodgings or sufficient space for: the cottages accommodate up to six people.

2 fit in with the wishes or needs of: any language must accommodate new concepts.

■ [no obj.] (accommodate to) adapt to: making users accommodate to the realities of today's marketplace.

- **DERIVATIVES** **accommodative** adjective.

- **ORIGIN** mid 16th cent.: from Latin *accommodat-* 'made fitting', from the verb *accommodare*, from ad- 'to' + *modus* 'fitting'.

accommodating ▶ **adjective** fitting in with someone's wishes or demands in a helpful way.

- **DERIVATIVES** **accommodatingly** adverb.

accommodation ▶ **noun** 1 [mass noun] a room, group of rooms, or building in which someone may live or stay: they were living in temporary accommodation.

■ (accommodations) chiefly N. Amer. lodgings, sometimes also including board: the company offers a number of guest house accommodations in Oberammergau. ■ the available space for occupants in a building, vehicle, or vessel: there was lifeboat accommodation for 1,178 people. ■ the providing of a room or lodgings: the building is used exclusively for the accommodation of guests.

2 a convenient arrangement: a settlement or compromise: the prime minister was seeking an accommodation with Labour.

■ [mass noun] the process of adapting or adjusting to someone or something: accommodation to a separate political entity was not possible. ■ [mass noun] the automatic adjustment of the focus of the eye by flattening or thickening of the lens.

- **ORIGIN** early 17th cent.: from Latin *accommodatio(n)*, from *accommodare* 'fit one thing to another' (see **ACCOMMODATE**).

accommodation address ▶ **noun** Brit. an address for correspondence used by a person who wishes to conceal or does not have a permanent address.

accommodationist ▶ **noun** US a person who seeks compromise with an opposing point of view, typically a political one.

accommodation ladder ▶ **noun** a ladder or

flight of steps up the side of a ship allowing access from a small boat or a quayside.

accommodation platform ▶ **noun** an offshore platform serving as accommodation for workers in offshore oil or gas production.

accompaniment ▶ **noun** 1 a musical part which supports or partners a solo instrument, voice, or group: she sang to a guitar accompaniment | [mass noun] *sonatas* for piano with violin accompaniment.

■ a piece of music played as a complement or background to an activity: lush string accompaniments to romantic scenes in films.

2 something that supplements or complements something else, especially food: these biscuits are a lovely accompaniment to tea.

- **PHRASES** to the accompaniment of with accompanying or background music or sound from: we filed out to the accompaniment of the organ.

■ with another event happening at the same time as:

- **ORIGIN** early 18th cent.: from French *accompagnement*, from *accompagner* 'accompany'.

accompanist ▶ **noun** a person who provides a musical accompaniment to another musician or to a singer.

accompany ▶ **verb** (-ies, -ied) [with obj.] 1 go somewhere with (someone) as a companion or escort: the two sisters were to accompany us to London.

2 (usu. be accompanied) be present or occur at the same time as (something else): the illness is often accompanied by nausea.

■ provide (something) as a complement or addition to something else: home-cooked ham accompanied by brown bread.

3 play a musical accompaniment for.

- **ORIGIN** late Middle English: from Old French *accompagner*, from *a-* (from Latin ad 'to, at') + *compagnie*, from Old French *compagnon* 'companion'. The spelling change was due to association with **COMPANY**.

accomplice /ə'kɒmplɪs, ə'kɔ:lɪs-/ ▶ **noun** a person who helps another commit a crime.

- **ORIGIN** mid 16th cent.: alteration (probably by association with **ACCOMPANY**) of Middle English *complice* 'an associate', via Old French from late Latin *complex*, *compli-* 'allied', from *com-* 'together' + the root of *plicare* 'to fold'.

accomplish ▶ **verb** [with obj.] achieve or complete successfully: the planes accomplished their mission.

- **ORIGIN** late Middle English: from Old French *accomplir*, lengthened stem of *acmplir*, based on Latin ad- 'to' + *complere* 'to complete'.

accomplished ▶ **adjective** highly trained or skilled in a particular activity: an accomplished pianist.

■ well educated and having good social skills.

accomplishment ▶ **noun** something that has been achieved successfully: the reduction of inflation was a remarkable accomplishment.

■ [mass noun] the successful achievement of a task: the accomplishment of planned objectives. ■ an activity that a person can do well, typically as a result of study or practice: typing was another of her accomplishments.

■ [mass noun] skill or ability in an activity: a poet of considerable accomplishment.

accord ▶ **verb** 1 [with obj.] give or grant someone (power, status, or recognition): the powers accorded to the head of state | [with two objs] the national assembly accorded the General more power.

2 [no obj.] (accord with) (of a concept or fact) be harmonious or consistent with.

▶ noun an official agreement or treaty.

■ [mass noun] agreement or harmony: the government and the rebels are in accord on one point.

- **PHRASES** in accord with according to: of one's own accord voluntarily or without outside intervention: he would not seek treatment of his own accord, with one accord in a united way.

- **ORIGIN** Old English, from Old French *acorder* 'reconcile, be of one mind', from Latin ad- 'to' + *cor*, *cord* 'heart': influenced by **CONCORD**.

accordance ▶ **noun** (in phrase in accordance with) in a manner conforming with: the ballot was held in accordance with trade union rules.

- **ORIGIN** Middle English: from Old French *accordance*, from *acorder* 'bring to an agreement' (see **ACCORD**).

accordant ▶ **adjective** archaic agreeing or compatible: I found the music accordant with the words of the service.

accordant Middle English: from Old French *accordant*, from *acorder* 'bring to an agreement' (see **ACCORD**).

according ▶ **adverb** 1 [according to] as stated by or in: the outlook for investors is not bright, according to financial experts.

■ in a manner corresponding or conforming to: cook the rice according to the instructions. ■ in proportion or relation to: salary will be fixed according to experience.

2 [according as] depending on whether.

accordingly ▶ **adverb** 1 in a way that is appropriate to the particular circumstances: we have to discover what his plans are and act accordingly.

2 [sentence adverb] consequently; therefore: there was no breach of the rules; accordingly, there will be no disciplinary inquiry.

accordion /ə'kɔ:diən/ ▶ **noun** a musical instrument played by stretching and squeezing with the hands to work a central bellows that blows air over metal reeds, the melody and chords being sounded by buttons or keys. Compare with **CONCERTINA**.

■ [as modifier] folding like the bellows of an accordion: an accordion pleat.

- **DERIVATIVES** **accordionist** noun.

- **ORIGIN** mid 19th cent.: from German *Akkordion*, from Italian *accordare* 'to tune'.

accost ▶ **verb** [with obj.] approach and address (someone) boldly or aggressively: reporters accosted him in the street | a man tried to accost the girl on the way to school.

- **ORIGIN** late 16th cent. (originally in the sense 'lie or go alongside'): from French *accoster*, from Italian *accostare*, from Latin ad- 'to' + *costa* 'rib, side'.

accoucheme /ə'ku:s̩; ʃm̩d̩/ ▶ **noun** [mass noun] archaic the action of giving birth to a baby.

- **ORIGIN** late 18th cent.: French, from *accoucher* 'act as midwife', from *a-* (from Latin ad 'to, at') + *coucher* 'put to bed' (see **COUCH**).

accoucheur /ak'u:tʃər/ ▶ **noun** a male midwife.

- **ORIGIN** mid 18th cent.: French, from *accoucher* (see **ACCOUCHEMENT**).

account ▶ **noun** 1 a report or description of an event or experience: a detailed account of what has been achieved.

■ an interpretation or rendering of a piece of music: a lively account of Offenbach's score.

2 a record or statement of financial expenditure and receipts relating to a particular period or purpose: the barman was doing his accounts | he submitted a quarterly account.

■ (Accounts) the department of a company that deals with such records. ■ chiefly Brit. a bill taking the form of such a record: there's no money to pay the tradesmen's accounts this month.

3 an arrangement by which a body holds funds on behalf of a client or supplies goods or services to them on credit: a bank account | charge it to my account | I began buying things on account.

■ a client having such an arrangement with a supplier: selling bibles to established accounts in the North. ■ a contract to do work periodically for a client: another agency were awarded the account. ■ Stock Exchange, Brit. a fixed period on a stock exchange, at the end of which payment must be made for stock that has been bought.

4 [mass noun] importance: money was of no account to her.

▶ verb 1 [with obj. and complement] consider or regard in a specified way: her visit could not be accounted a success | he accounted himself the unluckiest man alive.

2 [no obj.] archaic give or receive an account for money received: after 1292 he accounted to the Westminster exchequer.

- **PHRASES** by (or from) all accounts according to what one has heard or read: by all accounts he is a pretty nice guy. call (or bring) someone to account require someone to explain a mistake or poor performance. give a good (or bad) account of oneself make a favourable (or unfavourable) impression through one's performance. keep an account of keep a record of. leave something out of account fall or decline to consider a factor.

money of account denominations of money used in reckoning but not current as coins. on someone's account for a specified person's benefit: don't bother on my account. on account of because of. on no account under no circumstances: on no account let anyone know we're interested. on one's own account with one's own money or assets, rather than for an employer or client: he began trading on his own account. settle (or square) accounts with pay money owed to

